| Sl. No. | Name Mr./Ms. | Sl. No. | Name Mr./Ms. |
|---|---|---|---|
| *35.* | Shreeram Lagoo | 41. | S. Karnal Hasan |
| 36. | Sarika Thakur | 42. | Tina Munim |
| 37. | Sanjay *Alias* Abhas Khan | 43 | Vikram *Alias* M.N. Makandan |
| 38. | Shashi Raj Kapoor | | |
| 39. | S.S. Rajendra | 44. | Vidya Sinha |
| 40. | Sri Vidhya | | |

**Research on cardamom plant diseases**

345. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of* COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that cardamom growers are facing difficulties in growing cardamom as the plants are afflicted with withering diseases;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct special research in this field; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Research on these diseases has already been undertaken to evolve a long term integrated disease management through development of resistant cultivars, agronomical manipulations fungacidal applications and use of bio agents.

**Assistance to cardamom growers**

346. SHRI R.T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that at present cardamom is auctioned in Tamil Nadu but the participating auctioners are very few in number;

(b) whether Government are also aware that the cardamom growers are adversely affected by the low number of participating auctioners; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to help cardamom growers in getting remunerative price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) At present there are five auctioners in Tamilnadu licensed by the Spices Board conducting cardamom auctions.

(b) Number of participants in the auctions vary from 50 to 60 for each auction on an average.

(c) Does not arise.

**Export performance of Colgate Palmolive**

347. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the year 1988 Colgate Palmolive had exported items valued at only Rs. 41 lakhs whereas foreign exchange outgo was to the tune of Rs. 6 crores; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to stop this foreign exchange drain?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.